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## NEWS RELEASE

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January 7, 2003

### McAllen Border Patrol Station Seizes 1,286 lbs. of Marijuana

*Interagency Cooperation Effective*



**McALLEN, Texas** – Chief Patrol Agent Jose E. Garza announces that Border Patrol Agents of the McAllen Border Patrol Station seized a total of 1,286 pounds of marijuana valued at \$1,028,800 after receiving information from U. S. Customs Service.

Today, Jan. 7, agents of the McAllen Border Patrol Station received information regarding a possible narcotics shipment that was to be crossed near La Joya, Texas.

Agents patrolling the Rio Grande River followed up on the information and observed a white Chevrolet pickup truck traveling south on a private road. The driver of the pickup made a u-turn and left the area without incident.

Several agents and a Border Patrol helicopter searched the area and discovered 106 bundles of marijuana wrapped in clear cellophane.

“Interagency cooperation has always been an asset in protecting our communities and our nation. Now more than ever, cooperation amongst law enforcement agencies is of utmost importance considering the threats of terrorism our nation faces.”

“The McAllen Border Patrol Sector continues to maintain effective relationships with the various local and federal law enforcement agencies within the McAllen Sector to better serve our communities.” The Sector has participated in the Border Coordination Initiative (BCI) since its inception in September of 1998.

-USBP

**VIDEO AVAILABLE**